

**REMARKS**

Claims 16-18 are currently pending. By this response 4 and 9-15 have been canceled. Allowance of the application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 4, 9 and 10-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of Ejima, Habuto, and Yamaoka. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant notes that claims 4, 9 and 10-13 have been canceled. Thus, the rejections with respect to these claims is now moot. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

With the cancellation of claims 4 and 9-15 the only remaining claims are the allowed claims 16-18. Thus, the application is now in condition for allowance. Prompt allowance is earnestly solicited.

**Conclusion**

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Chad J. Billings Reg. No. 48,917 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

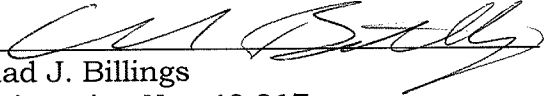
Application No. 09/994,747  
Amendment dated July 1, 2009  
Reply to Office Action of April 3, 2009

Docket No.: 0879-0364P

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: July 1, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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